

What is claimed is:

1. A method for specifying a selection of content segments stored in different formats, comprising the steps of:

Receiving specification of a plurality of portions of first content stored in a first format,
5 the specification identifying beginning and ending frames for each portion; and

Building a list comprising a starting mark and ending mark for each selected portion of
first content, the list for use in accessing corresponding portions of the same content stored as
second content in a second format.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the starting marker and ending marker further comprise
10 frame numbers.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of converting the starting mark and
ending mark into timecodes.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the first content includes timecodes superimposed on its
frames, further comprising the step of first determining a correspondence between frame
15 numbers and timecodes of the first content and using the determined correspondence to convert
the starting mark and ending mark into timecodes.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the starting mark and the ending mark further comprise timecodes.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the timecodes are extracted from the first content.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the first content includes timecodes superimposed on its frames, and wherein the timecodes are calculated by determining a correspondence between frame numbers and timecodes of the first content and using the determined correspondence to calculate timecodes for the beginning and ending frames of each of the selected portions.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the second format has a second than the first format.

9. A program product containing instructions executable by a computer, the instructions embodying a method for specifying a selection of content segments stored in different formats, comprising the steps of:

Receiving specification of a plurality of portions of first content stored in a first format, the specification identifying beginning and ending frames for each portion; and

Building a list comprising a starting mark and ending mark for each selected portion of first content, the list for use in accessing corresponding portions of the same content stored as second content in a second format.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the starting marker and ending marker further comprise frame numbers.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of converting the starting mark and ending mark into timecodes.

5 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the first content includes timecodes superimposed on its frames, further comprising the step of first determining a correspondence between frame numbers and timecodes of the first content and using the determined correspondence to convert the starting mark and ending mark into timecodes.

10 13. The method of claim 9, wherein the starting mark and the ending mark further comprise timecodes.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the timecodes are extracted from the first content.

15 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the first content includes timecodes superimposed on its frames, and wherein the timecodes are calculated by determining a correspondence between frame numbers and timecodes of the first content and using the determined correspondence to calculate timecodes for the beginning and ending frames of each of the selected portions.

16. The method of claim 9, wherein the second format has a second than the first format.

17. A system for specifying a selection of content segments stored in different formats, comprising the steps of:

An first software process for receiving specification of a plurality of portions of first content stored in a first format, the specification identifying beginning and ending frames for each portion; and

A second software process for building a list comprising a starting mark and ending mark for each selected portion of first content, the list for use in accessing corresponding portions of the same content stored as second content in a second format.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the starting marker and ending marker further comprise frame numbers.

19. The system of claim 18, further comprising a third software process for converting the starting mark and ending mark into timecodes.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the first content includes timecodes superimposed on its frames, further comprising a fourth software process for determining a correspondence between frame numbers and timecodes of the first content and using the determined correspondence to convert the starting mark and ending mark into timecodes.

21. The system of claim 17, wherein the starting mark and the ending mark further comprise timecodes.

22. The system of claim 21, further comprising detection apparatus for extracting timecodes from the first content.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein the first content includes timecodes superimposed on its frames, and further comprising a third software process for calculating the timecodes by
5 determining a correspondence between frame numbers and timecodes of the first content and using the determined correspondence to calculate timecodes for the beginning and ending frames of each of the selected portions.

24. The system of claim 17, wherein the second format has a second than the first format.